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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/760,074	01/14/2004	Mao-Lien Huang	2593.1-P-14983	1909

7590 04/07/2005  
MAO-LIEN HUANG  
P.O. BOX 26-757  
TAIPEI, 106  
TAIWAN

EXAMINER

TRAN, DALENA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3661

DATE MAILED: 04/07/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/760,074

**Applicant(s)**

HUANG ET AL.

**Examiner**

Dalena Tran

**Art Unit**

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 January 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)             | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)    | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### **Notice to Applicant(s)**

1. This application has been examined. Claims 1-7 are pending.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-2, are rejected under 35 U.S.C.103(a) as being unpatentable over Boggiatto (5,737,136) in view of Chen (6,406,154).

As per claim 1, Boggiatto discloses a method for automatically scanning a side view mirror of a vehicle, comprising: switching an indicator switch and sending a control signal via a tuning-signal processing unit to determine which side view mirror to scan, wherein the indicator switch electrically connects the tuning-signal processing unit, and the control signal and the side view mirror are determined by a switching direction due to the indicator switch (see at least columns 3-4, lines 65-65), transmitting the control signal to the side view mirror by the turning-signal processing unit (see at least the abstract; and columns 1-2, lines 35-23), and driving the side view mirror to scan automatically in real time (see at least column 3, lines 5-25). Boggiatto does not explicitly disclose maintaining an original state of each of two side view mirrors while driving. However, Chen disclose maintaining an original state of each of two side view mirrors while driving, and delivering a recovery signal to the side view mirror, wherein the side view

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mirror returns to the original state thereof simultaneously (see at least column 4, lines 52-63). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teach of Boggiatto by combining maintaining an original state of each of two side view mirrors while driving, and delivering a recovery signal to the side view mirror, wherein the side view mirror returns to the original state thereof simultaneously to provide a safety viewing of the vehicle in the straight driving direction.

Also, as per claim 2, Chen discloses providing a steering wheel and a front tire thereof back with a predetermined angle to switch on the recovery signal (see at least columns 2-3, lines 64-49; and column 4, lines 8-30).

4. Claim 3, is rejected under 35 U.S.C.103(a) as being unpatentable over Tate (4,679,158).

As per claim 3, Tate discloses a method for automatically scanning a side view mirror of a vehicle, comprising: turning on a real-time scanning switch to be ready for providing automatic scanning, and turning off the real-time scanning switch to deliver a recovery signal to the side view mirror, wherein the side view mirror returns to the original state thereof simultaneously. (see at least column 10, lines 28-47; and column 11, lines 15-32), handling a steering wheel and sending a control signal via a steering-wheel processing unit to determine which side view mirror to scan, wherein the control signal and the side view mirror are determined by a handling direction of the steering wheel (see at least columns 3-4, lines 31-19; and columns 9-10, lines 36-27), transmitting the control signal to the side view mirror by the steering-wheel processing unit (see at least columns 8-9, lines 67-36; and column 11, lines 6-14); and driving the side view mirror to scan automatically in real time (see at least columns 12-13, lines 34-24). Tate does not explicitly disclose maintaining an original state of each of two side view mirrors while driving.

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However, Tate teaches an initial straight ahead orientation (column 10, lines 6-7), initially the mirror is positioned to sight along edge 152 of the trailer (figure 13, and column 10, lines 20-21). Therefore, Tate does implies that while driving straight the original state of each of two side view mirrors has been maintain positioned to sight along edge of the trailer. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to implement the functions discloses in Tate by maintaining an original state of each of two side view mirrors while driving to provide a safety viewing position of the side mirror while driving straight.

5. Claims 4-7, are rejected under 35 U.S.C.103(a) as being unpatentable over Boggiatto (5,737,136) in view of Tate (4,679,158).

As per claim 4, Boggiatto discloses a system for automatically scanning a side view mirror of a vehicle, comprising: at least two side view mirrors disposed respectively on two lateral sides of a vehicle; at least two driving units respectively electrically connecting the two side view mirrors (see at least columns 3-4, lines 65-34); an operation unit electrically connecting the two driving units, wherein the operation unit includes a turning-signal processing unit (see at least columns 1-2, lines 55-22), and whereby the system determines which side view mirror to scan automatically by the turning-signal processing unit and send as control signal to each of the driving units of the side view mirror (see at least column 3, lines 5-25; and column 4, lines 35-65). Boggiatto does not disclose the operation unit includes a steering-wheel processing unit. However, Tate discloses an operation unit electrically connecting the two driving units, wherein the operation unit includes a steering-wheel processing unit (see at least columns 3-4, lines 31-19), and whereby the system determines which side view mirror to scan automatically by the steering wheel processing unit and send as control signal to each of the driving units of the

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side view mirror (see at least columns 8-10, lines 67-2). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention to modify the teach of Boggiatto by combining the operation unit includes a steering-wheel processing unit to automatically adjust the side view mirror while the vehicle is turning to view all the surrounding area around the vehicle to provide safety for vehicle.

Also, as per claims 5-6, Tate discloses an indicator switch electrically connecting the turning-signal processing unit, whereby each of the two side view mirrors is determined to be driven according to a switching direction of the indicator switch, and a real-time scanning switch electrically connecting the two driving units and the steering-wheel processing unit, whereby each of the two side view mirrors is determined to be driven according to a handling direction of a steering wheel, wherein the steering wheel connects the steering-wheel processing unit (see at least column 10, lines 28-47).

As per claim 7, Tate discloses a bracket protecting each of the two side view mirrors and a motor driving the bracket to rotate, wherein the motor electrically connects the operation unit, the bracket is driven by the motor thereof and the side view mirrors are respectively driven by the driving units, and the bracket and each of the two side view mirrors are independently driven from each other and are capable of wide-scanning in a cooperative manner for diminishing a blind spot while driving (see at least columns 5-6, lines 20-12).

### **Conclusion**

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

. McKee et al. (3,640,608)

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. Pignatelli (3,799,658)

. Ahn (6,116,742)

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dalena Tran whose telephone number is 703-308-8223. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (7:30 AM-5:30 PM), off every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas Black can be reached on 703-305-8233. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Patent Examiner  
Dalena Tran



April 1, 2005